



Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

— Making a positive difference through education and service —

February 14, 2007

Dear School Administrator:

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is pleased to announce *Missouri Connections*, a comprehensive education and career planning tool for all ages. You may be familiar with the *Missouri College and Career Planning System (MCCPS)*, a statewide system powered by *Kuder*® for middle school and high school students. It has been in place since fall of 2003. While *Missouri Connections* embodies many of the same components, it takes career planning to a higher level with more interactive features and refined tools for learning based on the 6 career paths and 16 career clusters. Educators, parents, and students (grades 6-14) can begin using the system February 15, 2007 *free of charge* at **www.missouriconnections.org**.

As an administrator, you understand the importance of bringing your students tools that help them reach their goals and achieve success. With *Missouri Connections*, students can start planning their classes, explore careers, research postsecondary options, and get a hold of their future as early as sixth grade. Research has proven that with career and postsecondary preparation, students are more likely to stay in school, graduate on time, and accomplish personal goals.

Bringing *Missouri Connections* to your students has never been easier. If your students are already a user with the *MCCPS*, they will simply log onto **www.missouriconnections.org** and enter their established user name and password. Information from previous assessments and profiles will automatically be transferred over to the enhanced system.

The Department is pleased to collaborate with *Kuder*®, as well as the Department of Economic Development to bring all Missourians the opportunity to find the right career. We look forward to adult access by mid-summer. It is truly a time when technology, education, and workforce initiatives have combined for the greater good of our people.

An introductory flyer is enclosed. For questions, more information, or to participate in training opportunities, please contact John Michael, Missouri field trainer, at 515-240-6966 or michaelj@kuder.com. Kuder Customer Support can be contacted toll-free at 877-999-6227 or support@kuder.com, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Good wishes.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Headrick
Assistant Commissioner
Division of Career Education

Enclosure